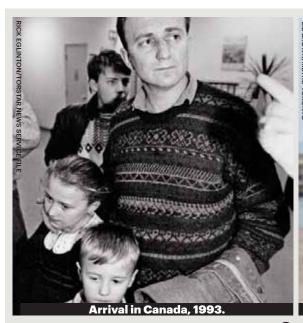


# Stuck in a stinky cab?

Your essential daily news | wednesday, november 25, 2015

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# TA'S ST

Metro's Melita Kuburas arrived in Canada as a refugee 22 years ago. Today people ask her, Why the rush to bring in so many Syrians? — 'As if anybody deserves to spend another night on a dirt floor.' HER FULL STORY IN metroNEWS

# 'Road map' forrefugees

RESETTLEMENT

#### Mayor says city is preparing for newcomers



Stephanie Taylor Metro | Halifax

Halifax's mayor says the Liberal government's refugee resettlement plan gives cities across Canada, including our own, more of a "road map" to prepare for the newcomers.

Mike Savage said there is plenty of work to be done following an announcement Tuesday that Canada will identify 25,000 Syrian refugees to bring to our country - 10,000 by the end of the year, and 15,000 by February 2016. He said city officials will now meet with members of the provincial government to discuss plans moving ahead.

When asked about the Liberals' delay to their self-imposed dead-

line of bringing 25,000 refugees to Canada by Dec. 31, the mayor toed the federal government's line that, "it's more important to

get it right, than it is to get it fast.' Regardless of numbers, Savage pointed to Tuesday's regional council decision to adopt a municipal refugee support plan, which ensures "that we're actually structurally ready to accept a number of refugees.

Included in the plan is providing temporary Halifax Transit passes and discounted rates to access municipal-owned recreation centres, for refugees during their first year of resettlement.

"This might be one of the most important things that this council does in this term," Coun. Waye Mason said of the plan.

Coun. Bill Karsten also added,"What we're dealing with here is not your average immigration policy or program. We're dealing with humanitar-

Government plan in metroNEWS

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# **BLACK FRIDAY SALE**





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Your essential daily news

A first-of-its-kind program in Hamilton, Ont., reunites pets with owners in hospital. Canada

#### Zero tolerance winter parking policy issued

Drivers should expect little mercy from parking officials this winter, as Tuesday council decreed a zero tolerance policy for drivers who impede snow-clearing measures.

Parking enforcement was a concern for councillors during

a debate on changes to the city's sidewalk clearing regimen during regional council's bi-weekly meeting.

Mosher said she was impressed

with several elements of the city's snow-clearing plan, from having back-up equipment on retainer and additional 3-1-1 agents to better deal with snow-related complaints, to more clearly worded language in performance-based contracts and extra supervision.

Introducing a more "aggres-

sive enforcement of illegal parking," to ensure no sidewalk or area marked for street-clearing is blocked is another positive step, she said.

The services of three towing companies have since been procured, she added.

"If you have a car and you don't There are streets have a parking spot, then resithat we know are dents should Coun. Linda always a problem. ... find alterna-

Waye Mason tives," she said. Coun. Waye Mason offered several examples of narrow streets where in the past, illegally parked vehicles

left no room for plows to clear the area. "If it goes off the rails in the first snow storm, they're basically

not going to get properly cleared for the entire winter," he said. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

# Fire station debate heats up city hall

#### **Chieflooks** to douse concerns over volunteer idea



Stephanie Taylor Metro | Halifax

The concept of converting three fire stations into volunteer units on overnights and weekends sparked heated debate at city hall Tuesday night.

Several councillors rebuked a new staffing plan put forward by Halifax's Fire Chief, Doug Trussler, to switch Station 4 on Lady Hammond Road and Station 11 on Patton Road from career firefighter stations into e-platoon units, and to staff Station 13 on King Street with a volunteer crew.

Developing the plan came as a result of an earlier council decision not to decommission the three stations - which were typically understaffed - but find more staff in order to keep their doors open.

During the presentation of his new plan, Trussler told regional council that between 15 and 25 volunteer firefighters would be needed at each station, which would be filled by new recruitment campaigns.

However, Coun. Brad Johns

Halifax regional firefighters battle a blaze in Bedford last month. JEFF HARPER/METRO

We're going to burn houses down. Public safety is at a risk.

Jim Gates

raised concern with the fact that his Patton Road-area station currently has no volunteers, but the plan would still see the station's two full time firefighters moved to Station 10 on Sackville Drive.

"We've never, in the 15 years I've represented this area, we've never been able to get a volunteer to go to that station," Johns

told Tuesday's council.

By switching that station to a volunteer unit after 5 p.m. without any volunteers effectively closes it, Johns argued.

However, Trussler assured council that area would be covered by five volunteers from Station 10, and espoused confidence that new recruits would fill the vacancies within a year.

"The impression is that a volunteer station is not an open station," Trussler told reporters outside council chambers.

"A volunteer station is an active station.

"If it wasn't for volunteer firefighters, most of Halifax Regional Municipality would not have any protection at all."

He said he was surprised to learn that was council's interpretation of the staffing plan, but underscored previous studies that found transitioning from full time to volunteer models were sufficient for those stations.

"Whatever we put in there is actually surplus to our needs,' he said.

The cost of staffing these stations with full-time firefighters rather than volunteers would mean a difference of \$2 million compared to \$535,000, Trussler

Tuesday's council eventually voted to defer the proposal until next January.

#### COMPENSATION

#### **Council approves** Sunshine List order

The earnings of Halifax's top brass will soon be public information to taxpayers.

Halifax regional council approved on Tuesday the adoption of a new administrative order, legislating that the salaries of HRM employees, as well as those with the Halifax Regional Library Board and Halifax Regional Water Commission, be disclosed if their earnings exceed \$100,000.

'This is long overdue," Coun. David Hendsbee told council.

The municipality gained permission from the province to develop the new disclosure policy in May, but due to timing was unable to kick into effect until the end of the current fiscal year, according to a staff report.

The report also notes that employees' salaries, as well as their name, position any other compensation they receive, would be published on a website "in order to make it as widely available as possible." STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

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# School should divest fuel funds: Advocacy groups

SUSTAINABILITY

#### Issue not just **'changing** light bulbs:' **Divest Dal**



Exactly one year after Dalhousie University's board of governors voted not to divest its endowment fund from fossil fuels, the Divest Dal movement wants to show the university it's still going strong - and even growing.

Divestment would mean removing the \$21 million invested in the Top 200 fossil fuels companies from Dalhousie's \$500-million endowment fund.

As the board of governors met again Tuesday on what Divest Dal spokesperson Caroline Merner calls the group's "no anniversary," divestment was not on the agenda, but outside, the group sought to keep it top of mind.

'Ît is important for us to show that divestment is growing and it's still a movement even if it's not on the table for the board of governors today,' said Merner on Tuesday.

The group put on an art installation in the university's quad, featuring a big dollar bill with \$2.6 trillion printed



Students put up signs of different institutions that have divested funds away from fossil fuels in the main quad at Dalhousie University in Halifax on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

already divested by other institutions. METRO HALIFAX

on it — the amount divested by other institutions — and signs with the names of 35 universities, cities and businesses that have divested.

Dalhousie would be the first university in Canada to divest - something Merner said would be a "dream come true" for the group.

She said divestment would be a signal that Dalhousie doesn't just talk the talk, but also walks the walk when it comes to environmental sustainability.

"We do call ourselves leaders in sustainability, but that's

The number of signs Divest Dal set up in the quad of institutions that have already divested.

not simply just changing light bulbs," she said.

Merner said student sup-

port has continued to grow after more than two years of campaigning for divestment, and she hoped Tuesday's event would create a "buzz" on cam-

The group is also hoping to make divestment a local issue ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris beginning Nov. 30, where they'll have four members present looking to make divestment an international issue as well.

#### **New rule** for split parents

Parents who have gone through a breakup would be required to give notification of a pending move under proposed changes to Nova Scotia's Maintenance and Custody Act.

Justice Minister Diana Whalen says the change would require a parent to give maximum written notice of a move to another town or province to the other parent or guardians of a child.

Whalen says if that can't be done at least 60 days in advance of the moving date then reasons would have to be provided within the written notification.

Other changes would see parents required to submit a parenting plan that outlines each parents' responsibilities and the living arrangements for a child.

Whalen said the name of the legislation would also be changed to the Parenting and Support Act. THE CANADIAN PRESS



#### FINANCE

#### Agency approves payroll rebate for company

Nova Scotia's business lending agency has approved a payroll rebate worth up to \$787,500 for a health-care technology

Nova Scotia Business Inc. says ResMed Halifax Inc. has said it plans to use the money to create up to 40 new jobs. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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### BLACK FRIDAY FRENZY

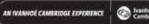
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NOVEMBER 27-29





NSP has issued a recall of roughly 4,700 clip-on flashers given out over the weekend. HANDOUT

## Nova Scotia Power recalls faulty LEDs

**CONSUMER SAFETY** 

#### **Apology issued** after lights passed out at **Xmas parade**



Nova Scotia Power (NSP) says it's sorry for handing out hazardous LED reflector lights at the Chronicle Herald Parade of Lights over the weekend.

The day after roughly 4,700 lights were handed out dur-

902-463-6700

flashers were not secure.

NSP spokeswoman Sasha Irving said Tuesday the utility provider found out the reflectors - meant to promote crosswalk safety - were creating problems Sunday afternoon. The IWK Health Centre had reported two incidents of young children ingesting batteries from the lights.

"Certainly we did not have any awareness of the issue, and as soon as we were alerted to the issue we sent out the warning to parents and now we're making every effort to get those items back so we can dispose of them," she said.

She said all the reflectors will be destroyed once the our focus just is on getting them back and ensuring the safety of all our customers," she said.

On Tuesday, Nova Scotia Power urged people to return the lights to one of the booths set up in partnership with Child Safety Link at Mic Mac Mall, The Halifax Shopping Centre, or the NSP head office at 1223 Lower Water St.

The booths will be set up on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and customers can get a \$10 gift card from Sobeys when they return the reflectors.

NSP has filed an incident report with Health Canada's Consumer Products Safety Directorate concerning the safety

#### ing Saturday's parade, NSP batteries are safely removed. of the lights - which, they "We apologize for having distributed the products and explained that the battery said, were made by a Canadian compartments of the clip-on company. Take control of your future! "I need a change... a real career." Since 1899 Get trained to work in, manage, or own a successful business, and learn the art of entrepreneurial thinking! Business Marketing and Administration. Apply now for or Click Spring 2016 Today

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#### Senior sexually assaulted on Gottingen Street: Police

Halifax police say a 68-yearold woman was sexually assaulted on Monday.

According to police, just after 2:30 p.m., a man touched a woman "in a sexual manner" over her clothing while she was walking on Gottingen Street towards Cornwallis Street in Halifax.

Police said officers "re-sponded quickly," but couldn't find the suspect.

He's described as five-footeight, white and in his 60s. He was wearing a dark grey parka with the hood up.

After the second sexual assault in the last few days, Halifax police spokeswoman Cst. Dianne Woodworth reiterated that the victims in these cases were doing nothing wrong, and there are no special precautions people



#### It's not going to be tolerated.

Cst. Dianne Woodworth

should take when walking around the city.

"What we want to do is put the emphasis on men that they can't abuse women in this way, and that it's not going to be tolerated," she said Tuesday.

She said there are beat cops in both areas that will continue their usual patrols.

Anyone with information about this latest incident is asked to call police or Crime Stoppers.

ZANE WOODFORD/METRO

#### CRIME

#### **Nova Scotia man charged** with attempted murder

An 18-year-old Nova Scotia man faces an attempted murder charge after an incident earlier this month.

Police in Nova Scotia say Issiah Julian of Afton is charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, possession of dangerous weapons, and two counts of breach of proba-

Nova Scotia RCMP spokesman Const. Mark Skinner said Tuesday the two men had an argument that escalated.

Skinner wouldn't comment on what caused the argument, or the nature of the alleged attempted murder, but said the victim and the accused are known to each other.

He said the incident happened on Nov. 13, but the

victim didn't come forward till Nov. 20, after realizing his injuries were more serious than he had originally thought.

Police seized a machete, knives and nun chucks while searching Julian's home on Petow Loop Extension in Afton, though Skinner would not say if any of those weapons were involved in the incident.

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CYCLING LIFE IN THE BIKE LANE The first protected bike lane in Halifax officially opened Tuesday morning on Rainnie Drive. The route is 300 metres long, and is separated from traffic by painted lines and a series of plastic posts. Cyclists braved the cold and flurries Tuesday to test out the new installation. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## Police look for plucky banjo thieves

#### CAPE BRETON

Two valuable models stolen from home in **McNabs Cove** 



Zane Woodford Metro | Halifax

Police in Nova Scotia are asking for the public's help in finding two stolen banjos

Both banjos were stolen from the same home in McNabs Cove in Cape Breton.

The first banjo is a white and maroon Deering Eagle II valued at more than

\$1,800. Police say the instrument, stolen on Oct. 13, is not available for sale in the prov-

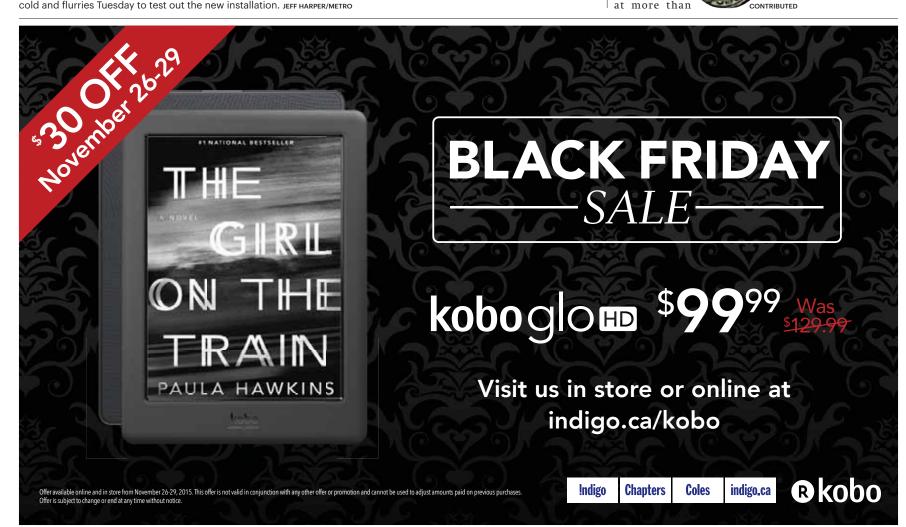
> The second banjo is a black Deering Goodtime valued at more than \$600.

Police say that one was stolen on Oct. 26, and they believe the suspect went back to steal the second banjo after learning of the value of the

Anyone with information about the dual banjo thefts is asked to call RCMP or Crime Stoppers.

The combined value of both stolen banjos.

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# HUDSON'S BAY

# Premier's chief of staff resign

**POLITICS** 

#### **Kirby McVicar** steps down in face of privacy complaint

Nova Scotia's Liberal government lost a second key figure Tuesday in a controversy that started when a cabinet minister didn't attend court to testify in an assault case where he was the alleged victim.

Premier Stephen McNeil accepted the resignation of his chief of staff, Kirby McVicar, a day after he disclosed the personal health information of Andrew Younger, who was kicked out of cabinet after he didn't show up in court earlier this month.

McNeil said he accepted Mc-Vicar's resignation when he returned Tuesday from meetings in Ottawa with the country's premiers and the prime minister.

"Information was put out of here yesterday that in my view was unacceptable," Mc-Neil told reporters outside his office.

"The issue is I had a problem with it. Information that comes to this office needs to be protected.'

McNeil said McVicar told him that he alone was responsible for the release of Younger's personal information and that's why he accepted his resignation. He said the loss of McVicar was difficult personally.

"This is not an easy day," McNeil said. "Kirby is more than someone who was my chief of staff - he was my

The premier also conceded the issues around Younger's dismissal have been a distraction, but he said the government was ready to move on.

McVicar's resignation came after he told reporters that Younger was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and had a brain tumour.

Younger responded Tuesday by filing a privacy complaint against McVicar.

Younger said the disclosure, which contained some accurate and some inaccurate information, was done without



Andrew Younger, former environment minister, expelled from the Liberal caucus, talks to media at legislature on Tuesday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

66

Kirby is more than someone who was my chief of staff he was my friend.

Premier Stephen McNeil

his consent.

"I think all Nova Scotians should be concerned when their government or their employer releases private health information without consent," Younger told reporters.

Younger said he has been diagnosed with PTSD, but he does not have a brain tumour and he never told McVicar that he had one.

He said members of his family were unaware of his condition and now he has to deal with their concerns because of the disclosure.

As a result, Younger said

he felt he had to take action and filed a complaint with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and the privacy officer with the Department of Health.

You can imagine the position this has put me in," he said. "It (the disclosure) also sets a terrible precedent."

McVicar spoke about Younger's health when he was explaining his role in a conversation in February that Younger secretly taped at his constituency office.

The recorded conversation was the subject of a warrant issued last week by the Speaker of the legislature.

Younger submitted a 12 minute and 10 second recording on Monday and legislature Speaker Kevin Murphy informed the house on Tuesday that he believed the Independent member had fulfilled his obligation.

Outside the legislature, Liberal house leader Michel Samson said as a result of the Speaker's ruling, the government would not seek further sanctions against Younger. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Colourful, elaborate costumes help set the tone for this whimsical holiday entertainment, which opens Friday and runs until Jan. 3. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# No flies on this performance

NEPTUNE THEATRE

#### A Year with **Frog and Toad** brings classic stories to life



Haley Ryan Metro | Halifax

Justin Goodhand is finding it very comfortable being a frog.

Neptune Theatre's holiday musical, A Year with Frog and Toad, has opening night Friday and runs until Jan. 3, 2016, as the characters from the classic stories by Arnold Lobel come

"I find it incredibly funny," Shane Carty, who plays the rather grumpy but lovable Toad, said Tuesday.

"It's also very charming (and) says a lot about how people can be if they choose to be."

A story of the bond between friends and accepting people's differences, the musical follows Frog, Toad, birds and mice in four seasons while swimming, baking cookies, sledding and singing at Christmastime.

Justin Goodhand makes his Neptune debut as Frog, and



Cast members from A Year With Frog and Toad run though a scene during a media preview Tuesday, JEFF HARPER/METRO

said the bond between him and Toad will stay in his heart.

"There's kind of trials that they go through, but it's a really, really rich friendship and we should all be so lucky to have a friend like that," Goodhand said. "It's been very comforting to live in those shoes."

Director George Pothitos said while kids will love the silliness, bouncy music from the live band and colourful costumes, adults will find certain jokes, the vaudeville feel and 1850s music hall-style of the set just as entertaining.

The actors may be playing frogs and mice, but have personified the animals through clothing, like the bright colours and feathers on the birds

- but no masks, to avoid the "Barney" effect and allow for expression and singing, Pothitos said.

Carty said the show has been a good reminder as an actor about being straightforward and incredibly clear.

Goodhand nodded in agreement, adding we all have a tendency to want to comment on things such as "I love you" or "I got you a present" with a modern, cynical perspective and



There's an extra Pay What You Can event Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Regular tickets start at \$27.

not take them at face value.

"It's just so honest, it's so earnest, so genuine, so without agenda. Everyone says what they mean," Goodhand said.
"We don't live that way ... I

don't know if we ever did but it's extremely endearing and refreshing.

Although Frog and Toad may not be as recognizable a holiday story as Elf or A Christmas Carol, Pothitos said it's like a delicious cookie you eat around this time of year - it doesn't have to be shaped "into a Christmas tree" to be festive.

"There's a sentimental sweetness to it that tugs at the heart," Pothitos said.



It's just so honest, it's so earnest, so genuine, so without agenda. **Everyone says what they mean.** We don't live that way.

Justin Goodhand, who plays Frog



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# 'We were one of the lucky ones'

As the country prepares to welcome thousands of Syrian refugees, a Metro editor recalls how her family built a happy life in Canada after escaping a war zone

Melita Kuburas Metro | Canada



For years I've treasured this clipped-out newspaper photograph of my family taken just moments after we arrived in Canada. My dad, at the age of 35, only three years older than I am now, has his right arm curled protectively around me and my little brother, nine and five years old at the time.

In the photo he looks like someone anticipating a better life, one he would grant us.

He had just been released from concentration camp at Manjaca in northwestern Bosnia and Herzegovina, where he was imprisoned for six months. Starved, beaten, kept from his family for nothing more than being Muslim.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government announced details about its ambitious plan to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees over the next three months. Many have criticized the haste — why the rush? they ask. As if any mother and child deserve to spend another night in a tent on a dirt floor.

A softening of the Liberals' initial promise is disappointing, but at least there's a commitment to welcome newcomers with urgency. There's so much desperation in the camps abroad. Perhaps a family's name is on an immi-

gration list, but it's a promise that can be yanked away at any moment. In my family's case, the offer to come to Canada was unreal up until the moment we landed here, when aspirations became concrete.

The question for me, then, isn't why the rush, but is there good enough reason to make

We were among 46 government-assisted refugees who arrived from the former Yugoslavia that day, Jan. 24, 1993, and many more would follow — almost 16,000 over the next four years, who, like us, didn't have a home to go back to. The breakup of the socialist union led to a fight over Bosnian territory, turning into a bloody war that gained notoriety for "ethnic cleansing." It ended with more than 100,000 deaths, over a third of them civilians.

We were one of the lucky ones, and it's not something we took for granted.

"Too generous."

These words are used to describe Canada's refugee policy on the Letters page in The Star on Nov. 8, 1993. They are echoed by critics this week in the comments section on any story about incoming Syrians.

Welcoming refugees is very generous of Canada, and of Canadians, but I can assure you: refugees are not freeloading. They are not "collecting cheques" and living lavishly. In fact, I recognize now in our first few years here what I failed to see back then — poverty.

We lived in temporary housing, a motel, for about a month in Toronto after arriving. Then we rented a two-bedroom apartment in Mississauga, the size that suited our four-person family for about a decade, until we were finally able to buy a two-storey house in Oakville.

Much of our apartment in those early years was furnished by items placed curbside by neighbours on garbage day. ("Do you have to write that in your article?" my

is very generous

of Canada, and of

are not freeloading.

mother asks now.)

Welcoming refugees member her washing other people's Canadians, but I can carpets on assure you: refugees our balcony, which were afterwards laid out on our floors.

My brother and I played Nintendo on a wooden-encased TV set that had a Lazy Bones remote — a discarded 1950s relic,

There was a No Frills at the plaza just around the corner from our building, but if milk happened to be on sale at Knob Hill Farms, an old supermarket chain at the discount mall across town, my parents would bike there to shop. The savings would have been negated by bus fare, so they biked 25 minutes each way to make it worthwhile.

I smile at this story now whenever I stop at Whole Foods because it's on my way home from

Their bicycles were also salvaged from the scrapheap. My dad would come to pick me up at school with his, until I sheepishly asked him if next



her family arriving at Pearson Airport as government-assisted refugees from the former

#### From the archives ...

The following are excerpts from the original story about the Kuburas family's tribulations in the former Yugoslavia, as well as their arrival in Canada — published Jan. 25, 1993, in the Toronto Star:

"I was taken to a place where they asked me what I owned, then sent me home," (Senad) Kuburas said. "But a week later they came back, came to my house saying they had an order to search.

"They pushed my wife and children into the corner of the room. A man with a shotgun pointed it at my father, and told me to hand

over all our money, our deutschmarks. I had only 150 and he didn't believe that was all I had. He put a gun to my daughter's head and said he would shoot her if I didn't give more money.

"He told me another group of soldiers was coming, and that they were going to kill me. I panicked, sent my wife and kids to the neighbour's house.

"Then the soldiers came and knocked on my door. They told me to come out. We came out, me and my old father. They said, 'Leave the old man here."

Kuburas said he never saw his father again.

Kuburas spent two months in the camp, along with hundreds of other men, enduring daily beatings, consuming mostly bread and water, watching friends die, beaten to death.

"The Red Cross asked us if we wanted to go from the camps. We'd heard so much about Canada. Canada was taking people with families,"

"We were told Canada is a big country, only 27 million people, so it still needs population there."

learning a language, getting a job, trying to fit in at school were welcome ones. Integration comes quickly, and it did for us. Like most government-sponsored refugees, we had to refund the cost of our trip to Canada

Melita encourages readers to contact her directly at: melita.kuburas@metronews.ca

a turn to come here."

and initial startup expenses,

taking on a debt of \$3,000 right

upon arrival. My dad sees that

as fair: "It offered someone else



Former Toronto Star reporter Allan Thompson. CONTRIBUTED

# Journey through history

I was on my laptop last Wednesday, sharing a column about the prospect of welcoming Syrian refugees in Canada's small towns, when an email message landed out of the blue.

Melita Kuburas, an editor at Metro Toronto, was getting in touch to ask about a story I'd written for the Toronto Star more than two decades earlier about another refugee influx. Then, it was hundreds of refugees from war-torn Bosnia, looking to make a new life in Canada.

"You interviewed my father on the day we landed in Canada," she wrote.

I remembered the assignment in an instant. It was late in the day on Sunday, Jan. 24, 1993, when I took a cab to Pearson airport to meet with refugees from Bosnia who were arriving in Toronto to start over.

Melita and her brother were just little kids then, cowering beside their dad, Senad Kuburas, when he recounted through an interpreter the family's horrific experiences in the Bosnian war. Looking back now, it seems the Canadian instinct to open our arms to refugees from a Muslim community in Bosnia was somehow more second nature then.



I've always wanted to meet the original story's photographer, Rick Eglinton. Not only did he record a life-changing moment for us, he also captured a certain dignity in my father's face. EXCERPT: MELITA KUBURAS PHOTO: LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

time he could leave the bike at home. I guess that what my mom finds embarrassing now, I was ashamed of back then. We were on assistance for about a year until they both found jobs, my dad as an electrician and my mom as a cashier until she went back to school for her trade in accounting.

Though they soon found work, we couldn't afford a car until two years later, when my dad bought an '86 blue Cutlass

So this is not me complaining;

these are not the painful memories, though there are plenty of those from back home: the men in uniforms, pointing a gun at me while demanding money ("Surely you love her the most," one had contemptuously said); the grandfather and favourite uncle who were killed, and whom I would never see again; the melancholy that takes over whenever I think back to the sharp interruption of an otherwise happy childhood.

In contrast, our family's struggles in our new home

# Liberals push back refugee goal

**IMMIGRATION** 

#### Exit visas and preparing cities cited as delay factors

The Liberals will miss their selfimposed deadline to resettle 25,000 refugees by the end of the year, instead pledging to meet the target by the end of Febru-

The government will also count privately sponsored refugees against the total goal of 25,000 people, as well as any Syrian refugee who has arrived in Canada since Nov. 1. The government expects 10,000 will be privately sponsored — 40 per cent of its goal.

Officials cite several challenges, including getting exit visas from host countries and ensuring Canadian communities are able to accommodate the refugees, as factors for pushing back the deadline.

In a media briefing today, officials said the government still intends to get the refugees to Canada as quickly as possible, but conceded that 15,000 are expected to have to wait until the first weeks of the new year.

"Yes, we want to bring them fast, but we also want to do it right," said John McCallum, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, speaking at a press conference Tuesday.

McCallum said Canadians will welcome refugees "with a smile, but a smile alone is not sufficient.

He said the delay would allow more time to ensure homes and language training for refugees would be in place when they arrive. The overall plan is expected to cost as much as \$687 million over six years, with the bulk of the money spent in the first two years.

Some departments involved in the resettlement project will be asked to absorb the costs, but officials say most will be new money.

The refugees will be drawn from UNHCR camps in Jordan and Lebanon, as well as refugees registered with the government of Turkey. Especially vulnerable



Left to right: Health Minister Jane Philpott, John McCallum, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan announce Canada's plan to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees during a press conference Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

groups - families, women at risk, and LGBT refugees — will be prioritized. Single men accompanying their parents can also be admitted.

The refugees will be subject to extensive security and health

screening at multiple stages on their journey to Canada. The first layer includes registration with the UNHCR or the Turkish government, followed by interviews, biometric and biographical data collection, and checks against

public safety databases in Canada and the United States.

As many as 500 federal personnel — including Canadian Forces members - are being deployed overseas to aid in the processing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The number of phases for the plan: Identification. processing, transportation, arrival, integration.

The overall cost of the plan over six years, with the bulk to be spent the first two years.

The number of federal personnel - including Canadian Forces members being deployed overseas to aid in the processing of refugees.

#### Privately sponsoring Syrian refugees a collaborative effort

If you want to become a refugee sponsor, here are the steps you need to take.

#### WHO CAN SPONSOR A REFUGEE?

Canadians can volunteer to support an individual or a family for one year. You can collaborate with friends, neighbours, colleagues, professional organizations and social clubs to commit the time and money required.

The website of Lifeline Syria, a refugee sponsorship group, recommends private sponsors join together in groups of five or more.

"You will need to work with others to share the tasks and support the refugee family to successfully settle here," the website states.

The Canadian government has temporarily exempted Syrian and BACKGROUND

Privately sponsored refugees will form around 40 per cent of the 25,000 people from Syria that the Liberal government plans to settle in Canada by February 2016.

Iraqi refugees from requiring

refugee status before a group of five private sponsors can submit an application. In 1979, after the Vietnam War, 7,000 Canadian faith and community groups privately sponsored a total of 29,269 refugees, thanks to a grassroots Toronto-based operation known as Operation Lifeline.

This number was out of a total of about 60,000 Indochinese eventually resettled in Canada.

#### **COSTS, IN TIME AND MONEY**

Government estimates place the cost of settling an individual refugee today at around \$12,000. A family of four will need about

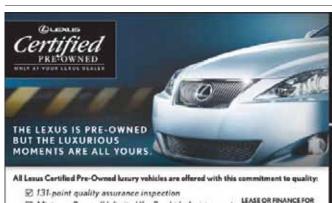
Speaking to the Star in September, Lifeline Syria chair Ratna Omidvar said she thought the estimates are conservative considering what the cost of living in the GTA amounts to. The or-

ganization's website puts the cost of housing a family of four at closer to \$27,000. But Omidvar said the money

rarely becomes a problem.

"People fixate on the money," she said.

"Yes, you have to raise it, but that's not difficult. You have to commit the time. That is the real commitment from private spon-SOTS." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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# Quebec construction deeply corrupt

**CHARBONNEAU REPORT** 

#### Hells Angels, Mafia problem far-reaching

The infiltration of organized crime groups into Quebec's construction industry is far worse than originally feared, Superior neau said Tuesday as she re-

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leased her much-awaited report.

"This investigation confirmed that there was a real problem in Quebec and that it was far more widespread than we originally believed," Charbonneau said.

She said the Mafia and Hells Angels worked their way deep into the industry, gaining access to public and private contracts saults and even murder.

"A culture of impunity developed," Charbonneau said, reading from a prepared state-

She praised the courage of s the 300 witnesses who testified since the inquiry began hearing testimony in September 2012.

"Contractors revealed that they were the victims of threats, to the heart of our mandate."

Charbonneau said that one of the five volumes of her report contains 60 recommendations on how to clean up the construction industry.

This report tries to address the problems with concrete solutions," she said.

One recommendation to set up an independent committee to decide on the awarding of government contracts.

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Superior Court Justice France Charbonneau. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Dying wish granted: Hospital allows pets

hospital can spend time with pets thanks to a unique initiative prompted by a woman's promise to her dying nephew.

Zachary's Paws for Healing was launched by Donna Jenkins and named for her nephew, who died last year after being diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymph-

Zachary Noble longed for a visit from his dog while at Juravinski Hospital and was allowed one with the help of his medical team. Before he died, Noble made his aunt, his caregiver, promise she'd work with the hospital to establish a program for companion pet visits.

'Îf it wasn't for the insight of that young man who was 25 years old and autistic to empaaround him, this may have never happened," Jenkins said.

Many hospitals, including Juravinski, already have policies on pet visits, but the requirements are so arduous that they often aren't pursued, said Jenkins. That's where her organization comes in: "We do all the leg work, we do all the paperwork, we do all the contacting for the families.

After her nephew's death, Jenkins worked with a committee at the Juravinski Hospital to develop the program. It launched in September, initially only providing pet visits to patients in certain intensive and long-term care units. Two weeks ago, however, the program expanded to the entire hospital. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Grace Campbell and Cuddles spend time bonding in Hamilton's Juravinski Hospital. COURTESY THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR



#### Woman planning humanrights case against UBC

Glynnis Kirchmeier is planning to launch a humanrights case against the University of British Columbia. She said UBC lacks a policy for handling sexual-assault reports and that it took a year and a half to act on six complaints about a PhD student. She published an open letter to the university's interim president Martha Piper on Tuesday asking why UBC issued a public apology about the matter but didn't directly

contact her or other students who made complaints. THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### Alberta MLA dead after trying to help motorist

Manmeet Bhullar, 35, died in hospital after he was struck by a semi while helping a motorist whose car had flipped on the Queen Elizabeth II Highway north of Red Deer, Alta. Alberta Premier Rachel Notley, speaking during a teleconference call from Ottawa, says she is deeply saddened by Bhullar's death. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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STATE OF EMERGENCY

#### **Blast in Tunisia** kills 12

Tunisia's president declared a 30-day state of emergency across the country and imposed an overnight curfew for the capital after an explosion Tuesday struck a bus carrying members of the presidential guard, killing at least 12 people and wounding 20 others.

The government described it as a terrorist attack. The blast on a tree-lined avenue in the heart of Tunis is a new blow to a country that is seen as a model for the region but has struggled against Islamic extremist violence. Radical gunmen staged two attacks earlier this year that killed 60 people, devastated the tourism industry and rattled this young democracy.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack against the presidential guard.

President Beji Caid Essebsi, who wasn't in the bus at the time, declared the state of emergency and curfew on the Tunis

'I want to reassure the Tunisian people that we will vanquish terrorism," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### France and U.S. to step up airstrikes against ISIL

President Barack Obama and French President Francois Hollande vowed Tuesday to escalate airstrikes against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and bolster intelligence sharing following the deadly Paris attacks. They called on Russia to join the international efforts, but only if Moscow ends its support for Syria's president. "Russia is the outlier," Obama said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Attackers were planning second suicide bombing

#### Paris

#### **Business** district next target, says prosecutor

The man believed to have planned the Nov. 13 Paris attacks that killed 130 people and wounded hundreds more had likely planned to carry out another suicide bombing days later in the French capital's business district, the Paris prosecutor said Tuesday.

Abdelhamid Abaaoud and an accomplice are believed to have been planning to attack La Defence on Nov. 18 or 19, Paris prosecutor Francois Molins said.

Abaaoud was among three people killed during a police raid on an apartment in a northern Paris suburb in the early hours of Nov. 18. His female cousin, Hasna Ait Boulahcen, died of asphyxia apparently from the explosive vest detonated by a third person, who hasn't been identified, the prosecutor said. The explosion led to part of the apartment collapsing.

Molins said the unidentified third person is believed to have been the accomplice with whom Abaaoud would have carried out an attack on La Defence, the highrise district that is headquarters to major companies on the western edge of Paris.

The prosecutor said he "can't be, and doesn't want to be more precise" on the details suggesting such an attack had been planned. Information obtained on Nov. 19 suggested "that the two attackers - Abaaoud and the man we found by his side in the apartment — were planning an attack consisting of blowing themselves up at La Defence either on Wed-

The two ... were planning an attack

consisting of blowing themselves

Wednesday the 18th or Thursday

up at La Defence either on

Francois Molins, Paris prosecutor



A soldier patrols at the Christmas market along the Champs Elysees avenue in Paris MICHEL EULER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

nesday the 18th or Thursday the 19th," Molins said.

The Nov. 13 attacks in Paris, claimed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), targeted people enjoying a Friday night out at a packed concert hall, a restaurant terrace, a cafe and a friendly soccer match between France and Germany.

In the hours after the killings, Abaaoud is believed to have returned to the sites of at least some of the attacks, including the Bataclan concert hall, even while special police forces were still there.

"The geolocalization of Abdelhamid Abaaoud's alleged phone between 22:28 p.m. and 0:28

confirms a presence in the 12th, 11th, and 10th districts, and notably near the Bataclan concert hall," Molins said. "This allows us to think that Abdelhamid Abaaoud returns to the crime scenes following the attacks ... while (special police) were still taking action at the Bataclan.' THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Putin denounces plane attack as 'stab in the back'

Turkey shot down a Russian warplane on Tuesday that it said ignored repeated warnings and crossed into its airspace from Syria, killing at least one of the two pilots in a long-feared escalation in tensions between Russia and NATO. Russian President

Vladimir Putin denounced what he called a "stab in the back" and warned of "significant consequences.'

The shoot down — the first time in half a century that a NATO member has downed a Russian plane — prompted an emergency meeting of the alliance. The incident highlighted the chaotic complexity of Syria's civil war, where multiple groups with clashing alliances are fighting on the ground and the sky is crowded with aircraft bombing various targets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A Russian Su-24 takes off on a combat mission at Hemeimeem airbase in Syria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



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# Seven dead in hotel attack

#### **ISIL** in Sinai takes credit for fatal car bombing

A brazen militant attack involving a suicide car bombing and claimed by the Islamic State group targeted a hotel in Egypt's restive northern Sinai region on Tuesday, killing seven people, including two judges, the state MENA news agency said.

The attack on the Swiss Inn hotel in the coastal city of El-Arish was the latest violence convulsing the troubled peninsula, where Egyptian troops are struggling to put down an Islamic insurgency. The attack was quickly claimed by the Islamic State's affiliate based in Sinai.

The assault came a day after Egypt held the second round of parliamentary elections. Judges who supervised the vote in Sinai were staying in the heavily guarded hotel.



Emergency personnel and security forces stand next to ambulances outside the Swiss Inn hotel in the Egyptian town of El-Arish, in the Sinai peninsula, following an attack on the hotel by two suicide bombers and a gunman Tuesday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MENA's report said four policemen and a civilian were also among the seven killed, and that at least 10 people were wounded. The agency cited an unnamed

security official as it often does.

The Sinai branch of the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement posted by sympathizers on social media

accounts. It said the attack was carried out by two militants: the suicide car bomber and a gunman, who is alleged to have opened fire inside the hotel beCONTEXT

#### A history of violence

Egypt has been battling militants in Sinai for years, but their insurgency has gained steam since the ouster in 2013 of the Islamist Mohammed Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected president. His ouster by the military was led by then-defence minister Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who last year was elected president.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fore blowing himself up.

The group also posted pictures of the two attackers and identified them as Abu Hamza al-Muhajer and Abu Wadhaa al-Muhajer. Al-Muhajer means migrant in Arabic and is used by militant groups to refer to foreign fighters, an indication that they could have been from outside Egypt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### IN BRIEF

#### Suicide car bomb outside Libvan capital kills five

A security official with Libya's Islamist government says a suicide car bombing struck a checkpoint in a town near the capital, Tripoli, killing five militia fighters.

The official says the bombing on Tuesday morning took place in Msallata, a town southeast of Tripoli. He says the explosion also wounded 17 people, 10 of them critically.

Libya has been in turmoil following the toppling and killing of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. It has split into an internationally recognized government, based in the far east, and an Islamist militia-backed government in Tripoli.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Three dead, 16 captured as Taliban downs helicopter

Taliban insurgents on Tuesday ambushed a militarycontracted helicopter that made an emergency landing in Faryab province in northwestern Afghanistan, killing three people in a shootout and capturing 16 others who were on board, Afghan officials said.

An army officer in Faryab said anonymously that the civilian aircraft had been contracted to transport army personnel. He said that after it landed, Taliban fighters rushed to the area, sparking the shootout and then seizing everyone on board. They later burned the chopper, he added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### U.S. refuses to recognize settlements

A new spat emerged between the Israeli government and Washington over Jewish settlements on Tuesday, as U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry visited Israel and the West Bank for the first time in more than

As Kerry set aside his goal of a long-sought peace accord to make way for more modest hopes of an end to two months of deadly violence, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for the recognition of some existing settlement blocs in exchange for steps to ease tensions with the Palestinians.

In Washington, the State Department quickly rejected any suggestion the U.S. would alter its longstanding opposition to

settlements or recognize them as legitimate outside of a peace agreement.

There were no signs that Kerry made headway in easing tensions during his meetings with Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Alongside Netanyahu, Kerry noted Israel's obligation to defend itself from "attacks in the streets with knives, with scissors, with cars." When he met Israeli President Reuven Rivlin, he said the shootings and stabbings were a "challenge to all civilized people."

None of the leaders themselves offered any encouragement that peace might be possible right now.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**U.S. Secretary of State John** Kerry JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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#### 🛑 IN BRIEF

#### Not enough grads have the right skills: CIBC head

Canada's post-secondary institutions are not producing enough graduates with the right skills to drive future economic growth, CIBC's CEO said.

Victor Dodig said Tuesday the country lags among its international peers when it comes to teaching disciplines that are increasingly important for innovation, such as math, science, and engineering. THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### Emails reveal Coke's role in anti-obesity group

A non-profit founded to combat obesity says the \$1.5 million it received from Coke has no influence on its work.

But emails The Associated Press obtained reveal Coca-Cola Co. helped pick the Global Energy Balance Network's leaders, edited its mission statement and suggested articles and videos for its website. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### General Mills sets goal to buy only cage-free eggs

General Mills has set a deadline for its conversion to all cage-free eggs by 2025.

Its brands include Pillsbury, Yoplait, and Betty Crocker. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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People shop in a nearly empty arcade in the centre of Brussels on Monday. The lockdown imposed on the Belgian capital in-

## Brussels lockdown hits businesses hard

#### SECURITY ALERT

#### Some owners say measures too dramatic, cut into profits

Belgium may be famed for its beer and chocolate, but the lockdown imposed on the capital because of the highest-level security alert is leaving a bad taste for many businesses.

While few doubt the government's need to protect the public from a Paris-style at-tack — which officials have warned is a "serious and imminent" threat in Brussels some shop owners say the attempts to shut down the city are too drastic.

Many shopping centres have been largely deserted since the threat alert was imposed

"It's not a very good decision," Esther Willems, assistant manager at the Galler chocolate shop in Brussels' city centre, said of the lockdown in the capital. "In the last two days, we have only had about 10-11 clients." Normally, they would have around 100.

With many shops closed in

It's not like terrorists are just walking around the streets here.

Esther Willems

downtown Brussels, Rachel Van der Veken's Maxi-Bagi cafe sandwich shop was one of the few still open.

"If I stay at home and ac-

cept this situation, it's like I accept what the terrorists are saying," she said.

Still, Van der Veken said she had zero customers on Saturday. Since then, her normal takings have been cut in half but she acknowledged it was impossible to say whether Belgian officials are overreacting.

'You can never say it's too high a cost because you have to protect your people, but why didn't they act before Paris? They knew there was always this threat."

The Belgian government savs the threat alert will remain in place until Monday unless there is a significant development.

#### WATER

#### **UAE** in danger of drying up

While skyscrapers and gleaming towers rose with lightning speed across the United Arab Emirates over the past two decades, the Gulf nation's thirst for water grew at an enormous rate — so much so that today, it threatens to dry up all of the country's groundwater in as little as 15 years, experts say. To quench that demand, cit-

ies across the seven emirates that make up the UAE rely on desalinated seawater to supply 98 per cent of their drinking water, but that comes with a huge environmental and fiscal cost. Now, officials are looking at new technologies to cover that demand, while acknowledging the risks ahead.

"In our region, water is more important than oil," said Ah-mad Belhoul, CEO of Masdar, the Abu Dhabi government's clean-energy company. "We're trying to find solutions to address that."

While the Emirates rose on its oil wealth, the riches spurred the development that strains the water supply in this desert nation. An academic paper published earlier this year by scientists at the United Arab Emirates University in Al Ain, suggested the country's entire supply of groundwater could be gone by 2030.



A desalination test facility in

#### **HUDSON'S BAY**

Our TODAY ONLY Wednesday, November 25th Calvin Klein AD incorrectly stated the down to feather fill ratio in two of the styles advertised. The Calvin Klein white coat featured on the far left of the ad, style number 0060-CWH17531 and style number 0060-CWH17531-B have a 50% down / 50% feather fill. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.



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Your essential daily news

#### URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

Dear Ellen, I recently got into a cab that was filthy dirty. It reeked. When I got out, I reeked. Should I have said something to the driver? Katie in Ottawa Dear Katie,

When it comes to being on someone else's turf, or inviting someone on to vours, there can be a fine line between polite behaviour and being a doormat. Take the dinner party,

for example. Should I tell a guest to stop talking with his mouth full and stuff my napkin in his gob the next time he laugh-spits halfchewed pasta particles onto my spectacles? Never. As a gracious hostess, I must smile through bits of flying food as if this masticating monster is the most charming man who ever graced my table. Then, if forced to invite him again, I would simply seat him far away, in the section reserved for drunken slobs and boring egomaniacs. Since all these specimens are completely oblivious of everyone else, and therefore immune to the kind of torture each one of them inflicts. I consider this to be a fair and tactful solution for all concerned.

Similarly, if you're invited to someone else's home, and it's a filthy, stinking mess, you have no choice but to choke down whatever is on offer, and then check yourself in for med-

If the driver of your rolling garbage dump is an owner who wants to stay in business, they need to up their game.

#### THE QUESTION

I recently got into a cab that was filthy dirty. It reeked. When I got out, I reeked. Should I have said something to the driver?



ical tests the next day if you're not feeling well. None of this hostess-

guest etiquette, however, applies to taxicabs, or restaurants, or any other transactional business where you are paying good money for a product or service, and your peace of mind, and, possibly, health, are at risk.

With a filthy taxicab,

you have several options.

• Back away from the car, with or without an explanation ("I just remembered, I'm allergic to

• Decline the service with an honest explana-tion: "Your cab is dirty and smells terrible. I thinǩ I'll

wait for another one Get into the cab if you can't wait for another one, and suffer in silence.

· Get into the cab and decline to tip when you reach your destination, though in this case, you do owe an explanation: "I'm sorry, but the state of your cab doesn't warrant a tip.'
If the cab is actually a

health hazard, or you need to redirect it to the nearest dry cleaner in order to get the smell off your clothes, you should not only say something, you should snap a pic of the operating licence and make a complaint, either to the taxi company or your city's li-censing body, or both.

#### Ani Castillo

Taxi driving is a difficult iob, and thanks to Uber whose operators should also be held to a cleanli-ness standard — it's tough-er than ever to make a liv-ing at it. But if the driver of your rolling garbage dump is an owner who wants to stay in business, they need to up their game. And if the driver is an

employee being forced to work all day in a dirty, stinking environment that you can't stand for 20 minutes, then consider that your official complaint might help them out too.

Need advice? Email Ellen:

#### metroview

#### Men are also victims of war. They need our protection.



Genna **Buck** Metro | Toronto

Canada's decision to limit the Syrian refugees we're accepting to women, children and families for now (no unaccompanied men) makes me so angry. It's unfair. It's blind to the realities of war. And it

might even aid ISIL.

To begin to see this issue clearly, we first need to ditch the dehumanizing language.

'Unaccompanied" sounds ominous. A one-man sleeper cell. How about "alone"?

Alone, because his entire family is among the quartermillion who've perished in the conflict. Alone, because he got separated from relatives and friends. Alone, because his loved ones are too sick or old or disabled to travel. War has a way of scattering people. Syria's men and women

both deserve protection: While women's bodily autonomy is often the first casualty of war, men's bodies are the weapons. President Bashar al-Assad's weapons. ISIL's weapons.

This is an uncommonly dirty war, with atrocities on all sides. It's nearly impossible for Syrian men to avoid being swept in either conscripted into Assad's forces or lured, by intimidation or intoxicating rhetoric, into armed groups like ISIL. We like to think people who

kill innocents and perpetrate war crimes are alien and evil to the core, but history shows almost anyone can be pressed into doing almost anything in the right circumstances.

Just ask any of the millions of men who walk the streets of Kampala, of Sarajevo, of Bue-

nos Aires, and more, haunted every day by the ghosts of war. I lived for a few months in Rwanda, where hundreds of thousands of men wake up daily and face the fact that they took machetes to dozens

of their neighbours. In another time and place, the young, able-bodied men in my life could be called to take up arms. My movie-buff friend. My 23-year-old fitness-fanatic brother. My cousin, forced to turn his rifle sights from ducks onto human beings. I'd do any-thing to spare him — to spare

any of them — from that. Toronto immigration lawyer Guidy Mamann told Metro that disqualifying young men is a way to screen the promised number of refugees within the federal government's deadline (since extended by two months) and keep the security risk manageable. If we really don't have time to evaluate each case individually, maybe we do need to slow down.

Because when Citizenship and Immigration describes un-accompanied men as "security risks," they're really saying, "It doesn't matter who you are, it doesn't matter what your story

is, we know enough about you to know you're dangerous." Even if it's legal in this context, discriminating based on gender is not who we are. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms is Canada's vision for a just world. We should aspire to live up to it always, especially

when no one is making us.
If, like me, you value peace as an end in itself, then pressure our leaders to welcome. Syrian refugees who qualify to Canada, regardless of their gender or family status.



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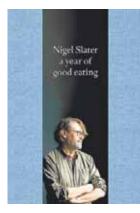


Your essential daily news

Japanese scientists have located the part of the brain linked to feeling happy

#### BOOK EXCERPT A YEAR OF GOOD EATING BY NIGEL SLATER

# Steak, Stilton and thyme pie



A Year of Good Eating is the third instalment of English food writer Nigel Slater's Kitchen Diaries series.

In this one, he looks at culinary delights over the course of a year through diary entries, stories and recipes.

The book contains more than 250 recipes. Here's one that is perfect for the holiday season.

The cut of beef is up to you. It gets a good couple of hours' cooking, so could be a cheaper cut such as shin, or one of the less expensive of the steaks, such as rump. Many butchers and supermarkets sell usefully ready-cubed meat especially for such recipes.

- Groundnut oil a little
- Beef, cubed 1kg
- Small shallots 10
- Carrots 300g
- A rib of celery
  Plain flour 2 tablespoons
- Marsala 200ml
- Beef stock 1 litre
- Thyme 8 sprigs

#### For the shortbread crust:

- Plain flour 250g
- Butter 75g Parsley — a large handful
  Stilton — 80g
- Thyme leaves -- 1 teaspoon
- Egg yolks 2
- Water, to mix

#### **Directions**

Warm a couple of tablespoons of oil in a deep casserole dish over a moderately high heat, add a third of the beef and brown on all sides, then remove and continue with the rest of the meat. By doing it in two or three batches you avoid crowding the pan, allowing the meat to brown more effectively.

Peel and halve the shallots, roughly chop the carrots, then add both to the pan, with a little more oil if need-

ed, browning gently and evenly. Slice the celery into thin pieces and add to the pan, but

don't let it brown. Return the beef to the pan, together with any juices that may have escaped. Scatter over the flour, continue cooking for a minute or two, then pour in the Marsala and the beef stock and bring to the boil. Season with salt and pepper, tuck in the thyme

sprigs, then lower the heat and simmer, very gently, for almost two hours, till the beef is tender. Leave to cool a little whilst you make the crust.

For the crust: put the flour into a bowl, add the butter, then rub together until you have the texture of coarse, fresh breadcrumbs. Chop the parsley roughly. Add the crumbled Stilton, the chopped parsley and thyme

leaves to the flour and butter and rub gently to fine crumbs.

Mix in the egg yolks and enough water to make a soft but rollable dough. Set the oven at 200°C/Gas 6.

Cut the dough in half. Roll one half to the diameter of the casserole dish, then place on top of the beef. Cut a hole or small slit in the centre to let the steam out. Shape the other half into a 20cm disc.

place on a baking sheet, prick the surface with a fork, then score into six segments, as if

you were slicing a cake. Bake the pie and the separate crust for twenty-five to thirty minutes, till golden brown. (Keep an eye on the disc of crust — you may need to remove it before the pie is ready.) Serve the pie with wedges of the extra crust for those who want it. For four.









# Kitchen trials of a Master Chefjudge

MASTERCHEF

#### Weight loss altered how Elliot prepares everyday meals

Melita **Kuburas** Metro | Canada



In person, chef Graham Elliot, of TV's MasterChef fame, looks

He's not wearing his usual bow tie, button-down shirt and vest, nor is he wearing a chef jacket. The white frame Ray Bans glasses, however, are unmistakable.

We meet on this unusually balmy October day in Toronto to talk about his first book, Cooking Like a Master Chef - his elevated take on foods "that everyone has had before," he explains - stroganoff, pot roast, scallops, and caesar salad for example.

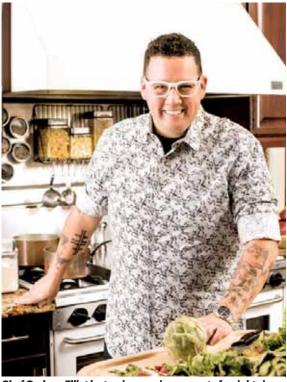
Sporting a red hoodie over a black T, jeans and red Converse sneakers, Elliot is feeling under the weather, slumped into the couch, his voice scratchy. But like his "jolly" TV persona, he's gracious and polite, even when we discuss his very apparent weight loss since he first shot to fame.

Elliot, who had vertical sleeve gastrectomy in 2013, used to weigh 400 lbs, has now dropped to 250. He says that while this is not a diet book, the 100 recipes here are not the same as they would have been five years ago.

"I think maybe (my lifestyle) was reflective in the food that I did where it was like, 'let's put a bunch of pop rocks on top of this! And maybe garnish this with chocolate sauce!

There are still indulgent dishes in the book, he says, "but it doesn't mean that I have to sit there and personally eat it all,

Like for many chefs who work crazy long hours in a stressful



Chef Graham Elliot lost an impressive amount of weight since undergoing a gastrectomy and changing his approach to eating. CONTRIBUTED

environment, he used food as a crutch, he says. It's ironic that he would put so much love and thought into food he made for other people, but none of the care into his own meals.

"I would take \$20/lb filet mignon, serve it, roast it, glaze it in butter and herbs, slice it thin a beautiful potato purée and at the end of the night I realize I haven't eaten in eight hours. So I would take all these burnt pieces of the filet that were leftover and squash it between a bun and that's my dinner, at three in the morning," he says.

His surgery, which made his stomach smaller, thereby limiting his daily caloric intake, didn't really have an impact on food prep he says. That's where expertise (he's been in the business for 20 years) comes in.

Take for instance the Maple-Bourbon Glazed Scallops with Butternut Squash and Swiss Chard (pg. 113), which he knows is going to have similar components to a butternut squash bisque with sliced raw scallop over the

top, for instance.
"I know that that means it's going to be a soft silky texture, it's going to be naturally sweet, and I'll need something acidic to cut through the richness of the soup. You don't have to go and spoon up and taste everything in the world. You'll just taste it to make sure it's seasoned right,"

#### **RECIPE CHEDDAR CHEESE RISOTTO**

#### Serves 4 to 6

Prep time: About 35 minutes, plus drying and resting Cooking time: About 1 hour

#### **Bacon Powder**

• 4 slices thick-cut bacon, chopped into small pieces

#### **Apple Garnish**

- <sup>2</sup> Gala or similar firm, sweet apples, peeled, cored, and julienned (reserve the apple peel-
- 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 cup grenadine
- 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar

#### **Glazed Onions**

- 2 Tbsp unsalted butter
- 2 cups peeled pearl onions
- 3 Tbsp hard cider

#### Risotto

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 cup minced onions
- 2 cups arborio rice
- 3 cups dry white wine
- 4 oz Wisconsin cheddar cheese, shredded (about 1 cup)
- 2 oz mascarpone (about 1/4 cup) • Salt and coarsely ground black
- 1 bunch chives, finely chopped, for garnish
- 1. For the bacon powder, in a small frying pan, slowly cook the bacon over medium-low heat. Spoon the fat off and discard as the bacon cooks. When the bacon browns, use a slotted spoon to transfer the bacon to a fine-mesh sieve or chinois to drain a little more. Spread the bacon pieces on paper towels and allow the bacon to air-dry for 2 to 3 hours. 2. Grind the bacon pieces in a spice or coffee grinder. Spread the powder on paper towels and let it air-dry for at least 6 hours. The powder can be made up to 2 days ahead and stored in a lidded container at room temperature until ready to use.



the apples and set aside for up to 4 hours.

4. In a small saucepan, combine the grenadine, vinegar, and brown sugar with the reserved apple peelings. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, reduce the heat, and simmer for about 5 minutes, or until the syrup has reduced to the consistency of honey. Transfer the syrup to a blender and puree until smooth. Set aside until needed.

5. For the glazed onions, in a large sauté pan, melt the butter over medium-high heat. When hot, cook the pearl onions for about 15 minutes, or until browned and tender.

6. Add the hard cider, reduce the heat to medium, and cook for about 30 minutes longer, or until the onions are cooked through. Lift the onions from the cooking liquid and set aside, covered to keep warm, until needed.

7. For the risotto, in a large saucepan, bring about 3 cups of water to a boil. Reduce the heat so that it's barely simmering but is very

**8.** In a large, deep pot, heat the oil over medium-high heat and sauté the minced onions for 4 to 5 minutes, or until translucent. Add the rice and stir with a wooden spoon to mix well with the onions. Cook for 5 minutes

9. Reduce the heat to mediumlow and add 1 cup of the wine, stirring the rice and wine continuously with the wooden spoon. When the first cup of wine has been absorbed by the rice, add another cup. Stir the rice and wine, and add the final cup of wine when the rice has absorbed the second cup. As you stir, the rice will release its natural starches, which help absorb the liquid.

10. Begin adding the hot water in 1/4-cup increments, stirring all the while. When you have added about 1 cup of the hot water, start tasting the rice and when it's al dente and has a little toothiness, stop adding water. This entire process should take about 20 minutes. Keep the hot water on the stove.

11. Add the cheddar and mascarpone to the hot risotto. Stir to allow the cheese to melt into the rice. Gently stir in the glazed onions. Season with salt and pepper. (Make sure you use enough pepper, which helps cut through the flavors of the dish.)

12. Divide the risotto among four to six serving plates or shallow bowls. Drain and pat dry the julienned apples and garnish each serving with the apples, chives, and bacon powder. Spoon the pureed apple peelings around the outside of the dish.

EXCERPT OF COOKING LIKE A MASTER CHEF: 100 RECIPES TO MAKE THE EVERYDAY EX-TAORDINARY, BY GRAHAM ELLIOT IS PRINTED WITH THE PERMISSION OF ATRIA BOOKS



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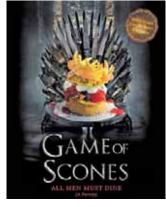


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#### BOOK EXCERPT GAME OF SCONES BY JAMMY LANNISTER

# Oberyn's Smashing Surprise



Deliciously clever, witty and tasty, Game of Scones: All Men Must Dine: A Parody (HarperCollins) features a series of edible recipes inspired by some of the shocking events that took place during the first five seasons of the popular HBO series.

Enjoyed seeing Bran Stark being carried all over the place by Hodor? There is a muffin for you. Relished seeing Jaime Lannister's hand cut off? There is a jamfilled cookie you can bake - and then mutilate. Is Daenerys Targaryen your pick to take the Iron Throne? You can recreate her unsullied soldiers as ladyfinger biscuits, without nuts, obviously.

Who is behind these pun-filled confections? A superfan of the series, and of baking, who goes by the pen name of Jammy Lan-

So — as the book asks — "Arya hungry?'

The following is a recipe for Oberyn's Smashing Surprise, a chocolate and jam treat inspired by the horrific scene where Óberyn Martell's head is crushed by The Mountain.

EXCERPT OF GAME OF SCONES: ALL MEN MUST DINE: A PARODY, BY JAMMY LANNISTER IS PRINTED WITH THE PERMISSION OF HARPERCOLLINS.







An explosion of chocolate and fruit that serves a gruesome reminder to always finish your dinner before walking away. Feeds 8

#### Ingredients

- 1 punnet fresh raspberries (Ed. note:
- a punnet is a small basket)
- 100g chocolate egg, about 12 cm tall • 1 packet strawberry or raspberry
- 100g butter, softened
- 175g icing sugar, sifted
- Black and red food colours
- A handful of cashew nuts

- 1. Cut the raspberries into mashedbrain-sized pieces.
- 2. Take the chocolate egg and, using a knife, cut a small hole in the top of the egg towards the back.
- 3. In a jug, make up the jelly as directed on the back of the packet and stir in the raspberries (you should have expected this recipe to be a little fruity), putting it aside to cool.
- 4. Meanwhile, beat the butter and

icing sugar together until fluffy. Keeping back a very small amount for the tongue, colour the butter cream with black food colour. Colour the remaining amount red.

Transfer the black icing to a pipping bag fitted with a plain nozzle and add hair and features to the egg.

Fill in the tongue with the red icing using the tip of a knife.

5. Crush the cashew nuts using a large knife and with leftover icing attach them to the mouth to look like

- 6. Once cooled and just beginning to set, carefully pour the jelly into the head and leave to set.
- 7. To serve, place your thumbs in the egg's eyes, allowing them to melt the chocolate a little before pushing through and crushing the egg to reveal the jelly inside.
- 8. As the chocolate face gives way beneath your hands, loudly confess to your hideous crimes and watch as your guests quietly make towards the

#### Softer spicy Jäger gets the nog

**Peter** Rockwell For Metro Canada

When you're in the booze business the temptation to not leave well enough alone can be nearly impossible to ignore.

In recent years, both liqueur and mainstream spirit companies, eyeing the success of flavoured vodka, have taken to adding just about anything to their classic recipes to stay relevant.

With its syrupy blend of 56 herbs, blossoms, roots and fruits, Germany's Jägermeister has remained one of the last liqueurs without a spinoff. That is, until

Jägermeister Spice (\$23.98-\$32.25) is a limited edition out for the holidays that "newly arranges" the original version's components, while adding cinnamon and vanilla to the mix.

At 25 per cent alcohol by volume (10 per cent less than the original), it's a softer, gentler Jäger that's meant to be sipped at room temperature rather than shot ice cold like its bigger brother.

Jagermeister

Îts eclectic spiciness makes a great addition to eggnog, though adding a splash of dark rum or American whisky as well will make your season brighter.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY, SOME PROD-UCTS MAY NOT BE AVAIL-ABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.



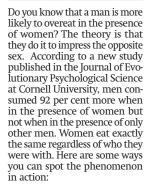
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## What does it mean when guys eat more?

WORD OF MOUTH

#### Men dominate eating contests, holiday-dinner extra helpings

**Theresa Albert** For Metro Canada



 The macho effect is at play when junk food companies introduce the next double



A study says that men eat 92 per cent more when in the presence of women. ISTOCK

down, super huge, extra bacon and uber deep fried "snack." It appeals to mostly young men who feel invincible and who can handle the calories

· Eating contests at state fairs, company picnics and on You-Tube are overrepresented by males. Men tend to enter these contests more often, win these contests most often and attend or watch the caveman behaviour most often. (This calls into question the theory of them

doing so to impress women...) • The holiday table you are

about to enjoy. Take a casual look around at the heap on the plates in your life. Whose is higher? Who goes back for

In the never-ending quest for answers on the obesity front it is up to you to decide where this piece of the pie this information fits.

Theresa is an on-camera food and health expert, nutritionist and writer who loves to spread the word on food

#### **FOOD BRIEF**

#### Mancan wine gets skewered on the Internet

Mancan: It's wine. In a can. For a man.

Because sometimes, sidling up to a bar, asking for a Pinot Grigio, and holding a glass of wine by the stem while buddies are chugging back beer can be emasculating, an entrepreneur decided to put wine in a can and allow his fellow wine-loving homies to enjoy the taste of red fruits and tannins while grunting about sports.

The marketing gimmick has generated no small amount of buzz with some camps skewering the product:

can. This is #MasculinitySoFragile in a can."

• "Actually #ManCan, I'm quite OK with stemware. And my masculinity too." AFP



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

#### N. Korea wins back pride in kimchi war



North Korea has applied to have its kimchi get the same official UNESCO status as its South Korean counterpart. ISTOCK

North Korea scored a major victory in the kimchi wars Monday when the UN all but elevated its pickled vegetables to the same lofty status as its southern neighbour's spicy capitalist cabbage.

Pyongyang suffered a blow to its prestige two years ago when South Korea's kimchi a favourite dish made mostly from fermented cabbage - was added to UNESCO's prestigious list of the world's "intangible cultural heritage." Not to be outdone, the north is now on the brink of getting the same classification for its own communist kimchi.

The fiery, often strongsmelling foodstuff can provoke equally strong emotions, with fierce rivalry between regions, communities and even families over whose kimchi is superior.

"Koreans share experience among themselves to make delicious kimchi according to season, while helping each other with raw materials and in preparation," UNESCO said as it confirmed the inclusion of the Democratic Republic of Korea's "red kimchi" on a list of nominations to be rubberstamped at a meeting next week in Namibia.

Seventeen other folk, dance, song and artisanal traditions are also set to receive UNESCO help and protection. AFP



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## Bakula's perpetual Mardi Gras

INTERVIEW

**NCIS New Orleans star** talks about his **Big Easy role** 

Ned **Ehrbar** Metro | Hollywood

Scott Bakula is no stranger to TV, but a prime spot in the NCIS empire is still a fairly new experience. Bakula leads NCIS: New Orleans, which aired its first midseason finale last night on Global. He stars as Senior Special Agent Dwayne "King" Pride. But a job like that comes with its own unique challenges.

#### What do you think has changed for TV over the years? And do you think a franchise like this is kind of a sure thing?

I don't think there are any sure things anymore. I would've bet you a lot of money that Men of a Certain Age would've lasted more than 22 episodes and I would've lost a lot of money. I am still shocked by that. You just learn over your lifetime that when you're off making it, you know it's

As I've told everybody about this show, we have to make a good show. People aren't lazy with their click-

They switch channels if they don't like you. So if 17 million people are tuning in on a Tuesday night for NCIS, and for our show everybody turns off the TV and goes to watch something



Scott Bakula is celebrating the midseason finale of NCIS New Orleans. CONTRIBUTED

I said a couple of weeks ago, 'We're running out of parades,' and they said, 'Oh no, it's New Orleans, you never run out of

parades.' Scott Bakula on what sets NCIS New Orleans apart from the other shows

else and we only get 10 million people — which is a lot for a lot of networks, but only 10 million on CBS are watching — our show we'll be cancelled. So I don't take anything for granted.

#### NCIS has been on the air for 12 years. Is it intimidating to follow that?

It's hard to get my head around. It's still hard to

comprehend that you're following the most-watched TV show on planet Earth. We were doing a crossover episode and I flew to L.A. to shoot with Mark (Harmon), and they were shooting Epi-

ly. I've never had anything

and I was shooting Episode 4 It's kind of humbling, real-

last that long, so I can't comprehend it.

After four and a half years of Quantum Leap and four years of Enterprise, I was not ready for those shows to end. So I know that my attention span can last at least four years.

#### What sets this apart from the other NCIS shows?

I said a couple of weeks ago, "We're running out of parades," and they said, "Oh no, it's New Orleans, you never run out of parades."

There is a parade for Thanksgiving, there is a parade for Halloween, there is a parade for Christmas, there are all the Mardi Gras parades, there is an Easter parade. They love to celebrate in that town, but at the end of the day we have to dig deep into the history and the culture and the community that lives there. You

have all this infusion of all these worlds coming and landing there and settling there and dying and killing and storms and tragedies. And the people that stay there are, they're a little crazy and very possessive about the city. They're all asking me, "How do you like my city?" It's a fascinating place

and that's part

of the show, a big

part of the show.

#### Sip-free Sofia sparks baby talk

During what was certainly the most heavily documented celebrity wedding of the decade, bride Sofia Vergara raised more than a few eyebrows by eschewing any celebratory champagne, despite her mar-riage to Joe Manganiello being a huge party.

So what gives?

"The reception was so much fun. Even though so many people there were wasted, Sofia was not at all," a source says of the West Palm Beach, Fla., nuptials, according to Radar Online.

"Either Sofia chose not to get drunk at the wedding out of respect for Joe" — who is 12-years sober — "or she is

pregnant." Well, then. Which do we think it is? The groom's comments at the reception point to family planning: "Joe cannot wait to have children with her, and he said that they are going to be trying right away," the source adds.

Maybe they got an early start on it.

NED EHRBAR/ METRO HOLLY-WOOD

Sofia Vergara. GETTY IMAGES

#### The very public love of Gwen and Blake

So this whole Gwen Stefani dating Blake Shelton thing. We need to talk about it. I'm not saying I'm getting sus-

picious, but I'm getting suspicious. The Voice co-judges continue to play the whole thing up for the cameras and behind the scenes so that word can get out about how cutesy they are

Like during the taping of this week's episode, during a commercial break Shelton made sure to walk over to Gwen and whisper in her ear a whole bunch as she rested her hand on the small of his back. And it doesn't help that when we chatted with Christina Aguilera earlier this



Blake Shelton. GETTY IMAGES

month she was far too eager to talk about them — even bringing up the topic herself.

Let's just say the whole thing feels a bit ... staged. That's all.



#### Move over Brad, Angelina has eyes for Frankenstein

Angelina Jolie could be set to star as the Bride of Frankenstein in Universal's planned remake of the movie. According to Comingsoon.net and The Hollywood Reporter, the group is keen to revamp the cult 1935 horror flick with the star taking the lead role. The remake was first announced back in 2009, when it was set to be produced by Brian Grazer and directed by Neil Burger. Jolie's most recent project, By the Sea, which she directed and stars in alongside husband Brad Pitt, was released earlier this month to poor box office





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Your essential daily news

White is the most popular car colour worldwide for fifth year running, Axalta report shows

## Practical Civic shows its fun side



#### THE CHECKLIST **2016 HONDA CIVIC SEDAN**

#### **THE BASICS**

Type. Four-door, five-passenger compact sedan

Engine (hp/torque). 2.0-litre four-cylinder (158/138); 1.5-litre turbo four-cylinder (174/162) Transmissions. Six-speed

manual or CVT Price. \$15,990 (base), \$24,990 (as-tested), plus destination

#### **COOL FEATURES**

- Capless fuel fillerWalk-away lockingLane Watch passenger-side
- monitor
   Wireless phone charging
   LED headlights
- Forward collision warning with
- braking Lane departure warning and
- mitigation
   Electronic parking brake



JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

- The Civic is also made in Ohio, but all sedans sold in Canada are built at Honda's plant in Al-
- Although it's larger than the outgoing model, the new version uses more high-strength steel, so it's stiffer and weighs less than before.

  The base DV trip comes only.
- The base DX trim comes only with a stick shift, and air conditioning is not available on it.

#### **POSITION**

Honda admits it was previously only chasing the com-petition, but now tries to move ahead. Civic is now a global vehicle, and all factories worldwide use techniques and training developed at the Ontario plant.



**Toyota Corolla** 



**Dodge Dart** 



Volkswagen Jetta Base price: \$15.995

#### Canada's top-selling ride gets a complete makeover

Jil **McIntosh** For Metro Canada



Even when something's at the top of the heap, it still has to be kept up to date, but that rule hasn't always resonated with Honda. Its Civic has been Canada's best-selling car for almost two decades, but the last couple of "all-new" redesigns were so watereddown that it was sometimes tough to see exactly what had been done.

All is forgiven with the 2016 sedan, which truly is completely redesigned and which is now one of the more impressive mainstream compact sedans that I've driven.

There are two new engines, starting with a 2.0-litre fourcylinder that makes 158 horsepower, but my tester used the 1.5-litre turbo-

charged four-cylinder. It's Honda's first turbo in North America and cranks out 174 horsepower, and runs on regular-grade gasoline. While the 2.0-litre is available with a six-speed manual, the turbo

exclusively uses an automatic continuously-variable transmission (CVT). The steering and handling are also much improved, and the car feels lightweight and nimble, with sharp response.

It's now longer and wider, and even though the roof swoops down at the back, rear-seat headroom remains the same as before. The cabin is very roomy and comfortable overall. The interior is also updated, most notably with a new instrument cluster that replaces the weird two-tiered version Civic used to have. Almost all materials are now soft-touch for a premium feel, and there's more small-item storage space than before. Most of the controls are large and easy to use, but the stereo needs a real volume dial, instead of an annoying touch-screen slider that's nearly impossible to accurately tap when you're moving.

There's also smartphone integration on all but the base model. Plug in The 2016 Honda Civic was named the Best New Small your phone, and either Apple Car-Play or Android Car by the Auto-mobile Journalists Association of Auto will access many of your apps on the car's centre screen (but please pay

attention to your driving instead).

The Civic's still practical, but now it's fun as well. It's taken a few tries to get here, but Honda has finally released a version that's truly worthy of its best-seller status.

#### Google in the driver's seat in race to autonomy: Researchers

New research suggests that Google's unrivalled access to complementary technologies could mean it will be offering consumers access to driverless taxis before a traditional carmaker can get its first autonomous car in a dealership.

During his media roundtable discussion at the Tokyo Motor Show, Nissan head Carlos Ghosn was very careful to make a clear distinction between autonomous driving aids and the concept of self-driving cars.

"Driverless cars are cars without a driver, which is what Google and Uber are pursuing," he said. "Our objective for autonomous drive is not to take you out of the car. Our objective is to keep you in the car and empower you.'

But while carmakers discuss the finer points and governments are yet to reach a consensus regarding the legislation needed to let cars drive themselves in public, according to IHS Automotive, Google is already streets ahead in the race to make autonomous cars a reality.

"No other company has as much relevant technology to advance autonomous driving software," said Egil Juliussen, PhD, senior research director at IHS Automotive.

The search giant is a leader in mapping, machine learning and artificial intelligence and has unrivalled access to other innovations, too.

"Google is in a unique position to leverage adjacent technologies for developing self-driving car software," Juliussen said, "And its strategy and goal is to provide the software and map infrastructure to allow mobility services to anyone."

Nissan, Toyota, Volvo, Honda and Audi have all set themselves a deadline of 2020 for delivering their first production cars with next-generation autonomous aids. However, IHS forecasts that "Car as a Service" (CaaS) fleets will be an app-controlled reality before 2025.

IHS forecasts that by 2035, 10 per cent of new cars on sale around the world will be fully autonomous. However, it also notes that the rate at which breakthroughs are being made means that this estimate could be very conservative. AFP



Canada.

Artistic rendering of Google's autonomous vehicle. GOOGLE INC.

28 Wednesday, November 25, 2015 metr

DRIVE

IN-VEHICLE FEATURES

# Technology trumps brand loyalty for carbuyers: Poll

Consumers have started placing such a high premium on in-car technology that they're prepared to switch brands in order to get the features they want.

According to a new KS&R survey commissioned by Autotrader in the U.S. and published to coincide with the L.A. Auto Show, almost two-thirds of consumers in the market for a new set of wheels would be willing to consider a different marque if the standard of technology on offer in their preferred car was lacking.

In fact, nine out of 10 drivers who are getting ready to buy a new car in the coming months have already started researching carmakers' latest tech offerings, particularly in terms of entertainment and driver aids.

"In-vehicle technology ranks increasingly higher for consumers as they consider must-have and desired features in their car shopping," said Michelle Krebs, Autotrader senior analyst. "That puts automakers under intense pressure to anticipate and offer the technologies consumers desire, or they risk losing them to a brand that delivers."



Carmakers are increasingly focusing on infotainment, handsfree systems and mirroring actions from smartphones.  $\tt istock$ 

More than half — 59 per cent — of the 1,012 U.S. vehicle owners surveyed said that cruise control was a must-have feature on their next car, while 59 per cent singled out diagnostic alerts and 49 per cent integrated USB charging ports.

In addition, the Autotrader study is the latest of many recent surveys to highlight that consumers clearly have doubts about the benefits of systems that simply offer an alternative to the apps and features that are already on their smartphones. For example, 67 per

cent thought that access to music streaming via the dashboard would be a "nice to have" feature (up from 12 per cent in last year's study) and 61 per cent said they wish their current car had a Wi-Fi hotspot (just 16 per cent in 2014). However, 39 per cent said they prefer using the navigation system on their smartphone to the ones integrated into cars.

Therefore, the fact that 57 per cent said that carmakers should focus on better in-car smartphone integration shouldn't come as a surprise. AFP

# GLK is mostly a worry-free bet

**USED VEHICLE** 

#### 2010-16 models from Mercedes mix comfort and sportiness

The Mercedes GLK launched for 2010 with a blocky and rugged look that flew in the face of more swoopy and wind-swept competitors, and boasted great visibility on account of its square proportions and thin window pillars, generous manoeuvrability, and a full complement of upscale feature content fitting of the badge.

Taking a place beneath the ML in the brand's utility vehicle lineup, GLK intended to compete with machines like the Acura RDX and BMW X3. Feature content included pushbutton start, navigation, heated leather, automatic climate control, xenon lights and plenty more.

At launch, all models ran

a 3.5-litre V6 with 268 horsepower, a 7-speed automatic, and 4Matic All-Wheel Drive (AWD). From 2013, the V6 was up-rated to just over 300 horsepower, and a 2.1-litre twin-turbo diesel four-cylinder engine becomes available, in the GLK 250 Bluetec.

#### The test drive

Any jerky shifts, slamming sensations, or failure of the transmission to respond via downshift to throttle inputs could be the result of a fussy Transmission Control Unit (TCU), which can be remedied by a reset or re-flash of its computer software. If any unwanted sensations from the transmission are noted on a test drive, be sure to have a Mercedes dealer investigate.

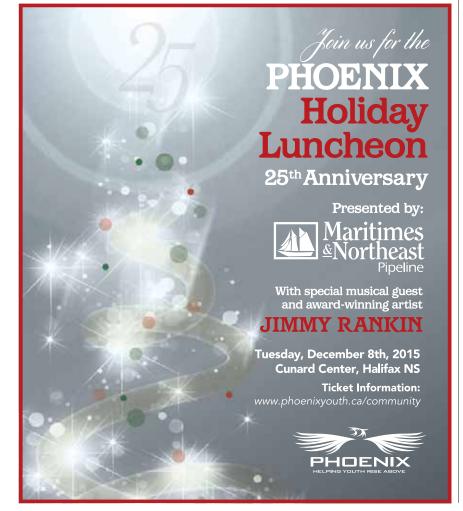
Run the COMMAND central control interface through its paces, exploring and confirming proper operation of all functionalities. Some owners have reported sporadic or regular crashing-out of this system, which can render many

vehicle functions relating to communications, entertainment and navigation inoperable. Revised system programming, available through your dealer, will typically solve any detected issues. Try the control knob in all directions, call up all menus, pair a phone, and be sure the system responds favourably.

Confirm proper operation of the powered tailgate, if equipped. If the tailgate reverses direction on its own, in either direction, a faulty motor clutch is probably to blame. Dealer service advisers have access to a service bulletin with more information on diagnosing and fixing issues with the rear power tailgate.

Squeaky brakes may be the result of excessive wear, or the need for revised brake pads to mitigate vibrations that cause squeaks. Other uncommon but notable issues include backup camera failure, short taillight bulb life, and fluid leaks from a front axle seal.

METRO CANADA





#### What owners like

Styling, classiness, comfort and the GLK's upscale cabin are highly rated by owners. Many report a perfect blend of agility, sportiness and comfort is maintained on all surfaces. A solid and robust feeling of quality is noted, and even the standard stereo system is said to be potent. Finally, numerous tall drivers go out of their way to mention the GLK's generous head-room.

#### What owners dislike

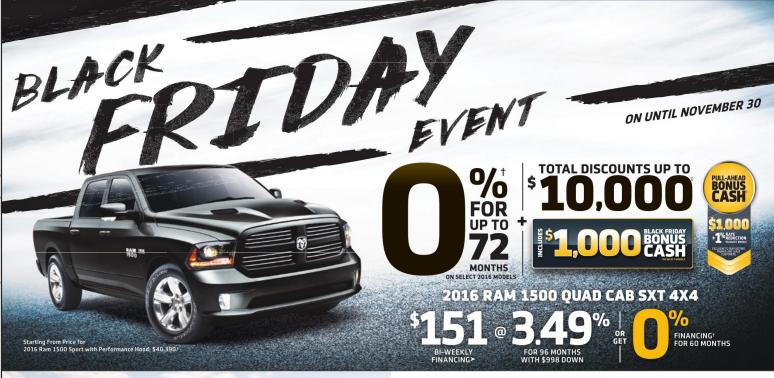
Some owners wish for larger side mirrors and more rear seat legroom, and question the engine's need to be fed premium-grade fuel.

#### The verdict

The most frequently reported issues with the GLK appear to be minor in nature, and should be easily detected and fixed. Prospective shoppers who find a good deal on a used copy, and get a thumbsup from a Mercedes-Benz technician on a pre-purchase inspection, can buy with confidence.



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Honda's shrinking act no small feat

#### FCV powertrain matches conventional technology for size

New technology means that Honda's tentatively named FCV fuel-cell vehicle — one of only a few hydrogen-powered sedans beginning to come to market — can house its entire powertrain in the same space that a traditional internal-combustion engine and transmission occupy. Just two decades ago, fuel-cell powertrains were on average the size of a minivan, making Honda's achievement no small feat. The car debuted at last month's Tokyo Motor Show, featuring a full cabin that seats five adults and a claimed range of 700 kilometres. "Exhilarating driving" is made possible by two high-output motors, Honda said.



Two versions of Tesla Motors' uniquely designed and styled Model X midsize wagon were offered at launch: the inventively named 90D, starting at \$133,200 in the United States, and the just-as-ambitiously-titled P90D, starting at \$143,200 and bearing the "Ludicrous Speed" option that gives it a zeroto-96-km/h time of 3.2 seconds. Both versions will travel a claimed 400 kilometres on a single charge, carry seven passengers in three rows of seats, and tow up to 2,270 kilograms. Unique features include rear passenger doors that swing straight up, a single-piece windshield that sweeps from the hood to halfway across the roof, an automatic front door and, for the cabin, a medical-grade air filtration system.



#### Fuel-cell 'family' of cars not expected within decade

As it did with the Prius hybrid that began as a single model and grew into its own line of vehicles, Toyota might eventually do the same with its limited-production Mirai hydrogen-fuelcell sedan, pictured, currently available in North America only in California and in very small numbers. Mirai chief engineer Yoshikazu Tanaka hopes one day a model lineup of fuel-cell vehicles will be the case. Speaking to Autocar magazine, he didn't propose anything specific model-wise, as that won't happen overnight, he said. It likely will take 10 or 20 years before fuel-cell cars achieve sales volumes in the neighbourhood of today's hybrids, and finding clean sources of hydrogen is still considered an issue.



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# Moose fell Screaming Eagles

**QMJHL** 

#### Herd's Bishop scores first goal, beats brother's team



Kristen Lipscombe Metro|Halifax

A victory over their provincial rival was perhaps sweeter for Joel Bishop than his Halifax Mooseheads teammates Tuesday night at the Scotiabank Centre.

The Herd rookie scored his first QMJHL goal, going top shelf to make it 5-1 early in the third period, en route to a 7-2 win over the Cape Breton

Screaming Eagles — his older brother's team.
"I think he'll be proud of

"I think he'll be proud of me, and he'll be happy for me," the 16-year-old centre from St. John's, N.L., said after the fourth game of the season between the two teams, in what's dubbed the Battle of Nova Scotia.

"He'd probably like it to be against somebody else."

Bishop was one of four Halifax rookies to get on the scoresheet Tuesday in front of a hometown crowd of 5,808 fans.

Defenceman Walter Flower added two assists, which were his first points in the league. Forward Arnaud Durandeau and Ilya Putintsev had helpers of their own.

"To get two assists tonight, was a little m o m e n tum booster," Lunenburg native F 1 o w e r said, adding his parents were in the stands to see

it happen. "It's a pretty great feeling." Bishop was named the third star of the night. Halifax blueliner

Halifax blueliner Cavan Fitzgerald got the second-star nod for his two goals — one on the power play early in the second period and an unassisted emptynetter while shorthanded in the third.

Mooseheads forward Maxime Fortier was named first star for his three points, which featured two goals, including the first of the game on a power play.

"All our lines are rolling now," Flower said, "so that's good."

Defenceman Taylor Ford and forward Vincent Watt also scored for the Herd, while Anthony Sorrentino and Pierre-Luc Dubois scored Cape Breton's goals, both with the man advantage.

"We just came out (and) we stuck to our game plan," Bishop said. "They'd been playing really well the past few games, but ... we ran them down and we didn't let them get very many chances."

Halifax managed 39 shots against Cape Breton netminders Kyle Jessiman and Alexandre Bélanger, the latter who came in midway through the third. Herd goaltender Eric Brassard made 25 saves for the win.

The Screaming Eagles are now in third place of the Maritimes division, ninth overall in the league, compared to fifth and 14th place for the Mooseheads.

"Arnie (Durandeau) just backhanded it to me ... there on the blue line," Bishop recalled of how his big goal came together. "I ... cut through the middle and shot it"

Bishop added, "the most important thing is the win tonight."

Cape Breton may have been disappointed in the loss, but Clark Bishop couldn't help but celebrate his little bro's goal, at least a little

"It's good for him; I'm really



Screaming Eagles winger Colin MacSween falls after missing a check on Mooseheads forward Barrett Dachyshyn on Tuesday night at the Scotiabank Centre. JEFF HARPER/METRO

happy for him," said the 19-yearold forward, who wasn't actually on the ice Tuesday due to a leg injury resulting from the recent CHL Canada Russia Series.

"Too bad it wasn't against another team."



#### Head to head

Halifax — 2-1-1-0 Cape Breton — 2-2-0-0 Overall this season Halifax — 10-14-3-1 Cape Breton — 13-12-3-0

CFL

#### Curfew keeps players in line during week's festivities



**Joel Bishop** 

Members of the Eskimos arrive in Winnipeg on Tuesday.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Players gearing up for Sunday's Grey Cup showdown arrived in Winnipeg Tuesday night, planning to enjoy the festivities—but not too much—while they prepare for the big game.

"Yeah, we do curfew," Ottawa Redblacks coach Rick Campbell told reporters shortly after the team's plane landed.

"I think there's a balance you can strike of being able to participate and see some things without being in full party mode."

Players didn't seem bothered by the idea of a nightly curfew — 11 p.m. in Ottawa's case.

"I don't mind because I'm going to be in my bed," said Red-



#### Keepers of time

The Redblacks and Eskimos were 1-2 in time of possession but each offence will face a stiff test Sunday against stingy defences.

blacks fullback Patrick Lavoie. "We know what we have to do."

Ottawa quarterback Henry Burris is gunning for his third Grey Cup ring. The 40-year-old said the fact the Redblacks are in the championship in the franchise's second year is a tribute to the way the players and coaches have gelled.

"With all the growing pains

we had to go through as an organization, as a team last year, it's created a group of guys that never say die in that locker-room."

The Eskimos won both regular-season matchups between the two teams, early in the season in July, but they are not taking anything for granted going into Sunday.

"It was a dogfight," defensive lineman Odell Willis said.

"Those guys fought hard. It just so happened we were able to make more plays than they did, and we were able to get the W."

Quarterback Mike Reilly said Ottawa has come a long way.

"They were a very different team when we played them early in the season and so are we," he said.

"It's not a coincidence that they're in the Grey Cup. They've been playing great football and they deserve to be there. So we're going to have to put together a great performance in order to get the win."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metr#SPORTS



Barcelona star Lionel Messi scores his first goal since his two-month injury lay-off and his team's second goal during the Group E match at Camp Nou in Barcelona on Tuesday. DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES

# Suarez-Messi double act conquers Roma

Pique also got on

the scoresheet

#### Forward duo each hit brace to put Catalans into next round

Lionel Messi scored his first two goals after a two-month injury layoff and Luis Suarez netted a brace in a 6-1 rout of Roma on Tuesday as Barcelona advanced to the Champions League knockout rounds for a 12th consecutive season.

Suarez got Barcelona rolling at Camp Nou in the 15th minute. Three minutes later Messi scored his first goal in his second appearance since returning from a left-knee injury.

Messi netted the hosts' fifth after Suarez and Gerard Pique scored. Adriano capped the demolition before Edin Dzeko got Roma's consolation.

"Messi is the best and I



feel very happy for him for his goals and for because he played the entire match," Suarez said. "We played a perfect game.' Barcelona had already

qualified for the next phase before kickoff after Bayer Leverkusen was held 1-1 at BATE Borisov, but the victory moved the defending champions onto 13 points and the top spot in Group E with a game to

spare. Roma was left with five points along with Leverkusen, while BATE has four.

Messi showed no rust from his time on the sideline recovering from a ligament he tore on Sept. 26. On Saturday, he played a little more than half an hour as a second-half

substitute in Barcelona's memorable 4-0 win at Real Madrid, looking threatening as ever despite not scoring.

The Argentine star took little time finding the net against an overmatched Roma side that rarely left its area.

Messi's goals were his first in the Champions League this campaign (he has only made two appearances) and 78th and 79th in competition history, second only

BATE Bor 1, Bayer Levkn 1 **Group F** 

Bayern Mun 4, Olympiakos O

M'bi Tel-Aviv O, Chelsea 4 FC Porto O, Dynamo Kiev 2

Zenit St P 2, Valencia 0

of 83. Suarez, meanwhile, continued his scoring streak with his ninth and tenth goals in his last six matches taking him up to 17 for the season.

ner Neymar, who missed a late penalty, also excelled at playing a part in their team's goals with their passing.



Barcelona 6, Roma 1

Arsenal 3, Dinamo 0 Group G

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#### Lyon 1, KAA Gent 2 to Crisitano Ronaldo's record

Both Suarez and striker part-THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



#### **IN BRIEF**

#### FIFA ethics committee want life ban for UEFA head Platini

The FIFA ethics committee has requested a life ban for Michel Platini, the Frenchman's lawyer said Tuesday, a move that would rule the UEFA president out of the race to succeed Sepp Blatter.

A source told The Associ-

ated Press that the maximum sanction was asked for when the FIFA ethics committee investigations unit submitted its final case report.

Blatter may also be expelled from world soccer over a \$2 million payment of FIFA money he approved to Platini in 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Russia's anti-doping system to go on trial, medals at stake

The Russian anti-doping system will go on trial at the Court of Arbitration for Sport next week with two Olympic medals at stake.

CAS will hear appeals from the International Association of Athletics Federations on

Dec. 2-3 against six Russian athletes, the country's track and field federation and the national anti-doping agency, the court said Tuesday.

The IAAF is challenging selective timing of bans imposed by RUSADA in January after blood doping was proved. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### metr **OBITUARIES**

#### **PRINGLE, Gilbert John, Retired MWO**



Age 88, of Dartmouth, passed away in St. Vincent's Nursing Home on Sunday, November 22, 2015 surrounded by his family. Born in Williamsburg, New Brunswick he was a son of the late Raymond and Lila (MacKay). Gilbert was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces from 1947-1977 serving on the Magnificent and the Bonaventure. After retiring from the Navy, Gil

worked in the Halifax Dockyard as a sail maker. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion for over 50 years. Gil loved the outdoors; he was a Master Guide in the province of New Brunswick. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and working with his hands. Gil is survived by his wife of 50 years, Margaret (Smith); son, Wesley (Barbara), Oxford; daughter, Judy Porter (Phil), Dartmouth; granddaughters, Amy Anderson-Pringle, Amherst, Rebecca Pringle, Edmonton and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brothers, Ernie, Junior and sister Beth Hossack. Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be held from 2-4 and 7-9pm on Thursday, November 26 with a memorial service 1pm Friday, November 27 followed by a reception all in Atlantic Funeral Homes, 771 Main Street Dartmouth. Interment in Dartmouth Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gil's memory to St. Vincent's Nursing Home. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.atlanticfuneralhomes.com (Dartmouth Chapel)





# Memorial

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# Manziel drops the ball again

#### **Browns demote OB** after he parties during bye week

Dropped from starter to thirdstringer — without playing a

Johnny Manziel partied his way out of the lineup during Cleveland's bye week.

Browns coach Mike Pettine benched the polarizing quarterback on Monday for his off-field behaviour, a move that could signal Manziel's days with the team are numbered.

Pettine said Josh McCown will start Monday night's game against Baltimore in place of Manziel, who was recently handed the starting job but couldn't keep it while the team had a week off.

Manziel's benching comes in the wake of a video surfacing of him holding a bottle of champagne and rapping profane lyrics last weekend in an Austin, Texas, nightclub. He had promised not to bring any embarrassment to the team during its week off, and did just that. Pettine, who has been supportive of Manziel in the past, has had enough.

"Everyone in this organiz-

ation wants what is best for Johnny just like we do for every player in our locker room. I'm especially disappointed in his actions and behaviour because he has been working very hard," Pettine said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



We always say to whom much is given, much is expected, and that's true for all of our players.

Browns coach Mike Pettine



Johnny Manziel, left, likely won't get any snaps with the Browns in the near future. JEFF ZELEVANSKY/GETTY IMAGES

#### HOCKEY

#### Habs' Gallagher to miss six weeks after hand surgery

Montreal Canadiens forward Brendan Gallagher is expected to miss at least six weeks after undergoing left hand surgery to repair two fractured finaers.

He underwent the procedure Monday, the team said on its official Twitter

The 23-year-old Edmonton native was hurt in Sunday's 4-2 win over the visiting New York Island-

Gallagher has 19 points (nine goals, 10 assists) in 23 games this season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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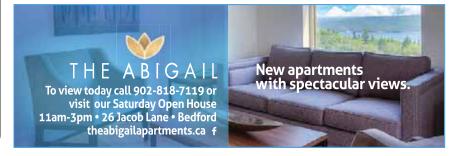
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#### **RECIPE Chicken and Rice Soup**



#### Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh For Metro Canada

We lovingly refer this kind of meal as a half-homemade dinner. Pick up a rotisserie chicken on the way home tonight and whip up a pot of this delicious, nourishing soup.

#### Ready in Prep time: 20 minutes

#### Serves 6 Ingredients

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- •1 onion, diced
- · 4 carrots, peeled and diced
- · 4 celery, trimmed and diced • 1 Tbsp fresh thyme
- 6 cups low sodium chicken stock

- · 3 cups leftover or rotisserie chicken, shredded
- 11/2 cups frozen corn (4 cobs with the corn sliced off)
- 1/2 cup fresh dill, chopped
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 2 cups cooked rice Salt and pepper

#### **Directions**

1. Place oil in a large pot and bring to medium heat. Add onions, carrots and celery and sauté for three minutes, until the vegetables start to soften. Add the thyme and stir.

2. Pour the stock into the pot. Now add the chicken, corn, dill, lemon juice and cooked rice. Taste and add salt and pepper to taste.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

#### CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

22

50

18

#### **ACROSS**

1. Performs for pedestrians 6. La \_ Grey (Grey Cup, en francais ...more at #25-Across) 11. American comedian Louis, et al. 14. - (Carnivore's web purchase, say) 15. Turn \_\_\_ new leaf 16. At the age of, in Latin [abbr.] 17. Edith Piaf's "\_ en Rose" 18. City's leader 19. Freelancer's encl. 20. Soul: French 21. "Sheila" singer Tommy 23. Rick \_\_, "Casablanca" (1942) main character 25. Sunday, November 29th, 2015... Winnipeg setting of this week end's Grey Cup championship, \_\_\_ Field 29. Chimney stuff 30. Saltpetre 31. Honey: French 33 Nile wader 35. Enthusiastic 39. "Gotcha!" 40. Azores island, Miguel

41. English cath-

Ms. Drummond

43. Celebrity chef

44. Tomato sauce's

46. Roughly: 2 wds.

48. Canadian singer

51. Twist, as timber

49. Songbook standard:

Ms. MacLean

"Goodnight,

edral city

partner

53. Canadian TV... "Crash Canyon", for one: 2 wds 58. Peaceful 59. 'Hect' add-on for Victoria 60. 62. Prefix to 'light' 63. Horse- car 66 Snow: French 68. Periods beyond

regular hrs. 69. Start 70. Celebrity photographer Ms. Leibovitz 71. Form of stage show in Japan 72. "Swell!" 73. Covers the fal con's eyes

69

DOWN

1. Mr. Lugosi 2. Savoury fifth taste that run high....": Bit of Canadian folk classic "Four Strong Winds" by Ian & Sylvia 4. And, in Athens 5. Prefix to 'phon-

ic' or 'type'

6. Bathroom

42

52

70

cleanser 7. Eggs, scientifically 8. One-eighty turn, slangly 9. Jeff (Host of "Survivor") 10. Canada's Governor General from 1904 to 1911 who, in 1909 donated the football trophy at

#6-Across: 2 wds 11. Big name in wristwatches 12. "Speed" (1994) name 13. Height-y, like a hill 22. Ancient seaport of Rome 24. Region 26. Li'l loudness 27. Clandestine maritime ora. 28. Ascends 31. Blueprint 32. James \_ (Smashing Pumpkins cofounder) 34. 1950s crooner Pat 36. Marvin Gaye smash: "I Heard It Through the 37. 'Profit' suffix 38. Stephen of movies 40. Actress Susan 42 Decrease 45. Famous maga zine 47. Embarrassed 48. Three 50. Everlasting in verse 52. Sports facilities 53. British car Martin 54. Just began the hobby: 2 wds 55. \_ coffee 56. \_ Domingo (Dominican Republic capital) 57. Seal 61. Dates 64. Noted botanist Mr. Gray 65 Drenched 67. Compass dir.

#### \* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20 Ignore what others say you should be doing and do what feels right. If you listen to their advice you will get nowhere, so trust your own instincts.

Taurus April 21 - May 21 The full moon makes this an important time for money, so weigh your options and don't make a choice until you are 100 per cent sure you are doing the right thing. If you act on impulse you could regret it.

Gemini May 22 - June 21 It may seem as if the world is against vou but common sense should tell you that isn't true. Try not to fall into the trap of thinking that those who disagree with you are enemies. They could be the best friends you have.

Cancer June 22 - July 23 Will you be able to make something out of all of your wonderful ideas? Of course, you won't know for sure until you try — so get on with it!

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23 Start something new, especially something of a creative nature. If you try your hand at something different today you may find you have a talent that has lain dormant for years - and it could make you rich.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 The more others tell you that what you are doing is misguided the more you will go out of your way to prove them wrong. You don't need anyone's advice — you are quite capable of getting it wrong yourself! Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23 The full moon may prevent you from getting out and about as much as you would like to today but don't let that stop you from communicating. Thanks to the telephone and the internet no-one can hide from you.

M Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22 You need a fresh approach to a money matter that has been causing problems. You've been influenced by what others think, so ignore their advice and follow your instincts.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21 The Sun in your birth sign at this time of year gives your confidence a boost but you still need to have a plan. Today's full moon will impress on you the urgency to get one!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 Despite what your mind might be telling you no one is out to get you and you won't lose out if you take the occasional risk.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19 If you have an urge to meddle in other people's affairs you must resist. The planets warn that even if you are successful in changing things you will have to change them back again later and it will cost you.

Fisces Feb. 20 - March 20 The Sun in the career area of your chart urges you to change things if you are unhappy with your lot in life. However, the current full moon warns you should wait a couple of days before making your move

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